

# Plascoat PPA 571

## Optimising key assets in a harsh environment



### Challenge:

The high cost of maintaining and operating offshore production facilities is felt no more keenly than in the North Sea. Structures face a constant challenge from corrosion and abrasion. Metal becomes degraded, losing its strength and this can eventually lead to premature, sometimes sudden, failure. Protection of the metal is the job of metal surface finishing.

Over the years, one of the major energy, offshore and shipping operations in the North Sea has used a variety of methods for protecting its metal infrastructure. The photographs below show parts of a safety rail, both coated at the same time in 2010. One has been coated in liquid paint which has clearly cracked and flaked and is allowing corrosion of the metal beneath.

### Solution:

The other safety railing was coated in **Plascoat PPA 571**. The photograph clearly shows that this fusion bonded coating has far longer durability than liquid paint in hostile environments and provides long term protection against corrosion. **Plascoat PPA 571** forms a thick durable coating with excellent abrasion resistance. It does not chip or crack on impact, highly relevant on a rig where heavy components are being shifted around and where storms throw items against each other. There is no chance of penetration by water, gases or microbes and so degradation does not start underneath the surface as it so often does with liquid paint.



Both rails coated six years ago: Plascoat PPA 571 on the left hand rail, liquid paint on the right hand rail.

### Application:

Safety hand rails,  
structural metalwork and  
safety cages

### Product:

Plascoat PPA 571

### Location:

North Sea Offshore  
Energy Platform End

### Client:

Major Danish Energy,  
Offshore and Shipping  
Operations company

Year: 2010



## Outcome:

Maintenance of offshore structures throws up many challenges which are unique to the physical environment. Cost efficiencies have never been more critical and companies are now committed to reducing the costs of operating their existing assets.

Using **Plascoat PPA 571** means that the number of years between essential maintenance programmes is greatly increased. This can save many millions of pounds both in reducing money spent on repairs, and the costs of production disruption.

Should the coating become damaged there are quick and easy repair procedures that can be carried out on the rig. Molten material from a strand or film of **Plascoat PPA 571** can be slowly applied to the heated damaged area; alternatively an acrylic polyurethane coating can be used to create a seal.

Extending the life of existing assets and infrastructure makes good economic sense and this can be achieved through long term effective protection of the metal work within that infrastructure.

## Key Points

- Superior resistance to salt water, impact and sand abrasion
- Thick, durable, will not chip or flake
- Flexible and will not crack on bending
- No requirement for a primer
- Stands up to temperatures as low as -70 °C without cracking
- Smooth glossy surface with a low anchor for algae and fungus
- 'Good grip' surface, 'warm to touch' - especially appropriate for safety rails